



NATIONAL CABLE & TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION

DANIEL L. BRENNER SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, LAW & REGULATORY POLICY

1724 MASSACHUSETTS AVE N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036-1903

TEL: 202.775.3664 FAX: 202.775.3603

Ex Parte

August 22, 2005

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CS Docket No. 97-80

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's Rules, this is to advise you that on August 19, 2005, the National Cable & Telecommunications Association ("NCTA") met with members of the Commission's Media Bureau concerning the cable industry's experience with CableCARDs. Present were: Mark Coblitz, Senior Vice President of Strategic Planning for Comcast Corporation; Tim Dodd, Vice President of Vice President Technology Policy, Time Warner Cable; Charlie R. Kennamer, Vice President of Digital Engineering, Comcast Cable Communications; Alex Netchvolodoff, Vice President of Public Policy for Cox Enterprises Inc; William A. Check, Vice President, Science & Technology of the National Cable & Telecommunications Association; Dan Brenner, Senior Vice-President, Law and Regulatory Policy of the National Cable & Telecommunications Association; Paul Glist of the law firm of Cole, Raywid & Braverman; and the Media Bureau members shown below.

The NCTA delegation described how well CableCARDs were working to deliver cable services to the cable customers who wish to use them, now exceeding 50,000. We noted that there are over 300 models of certified or verified digital cable ready devices from 21 manufacturers, and each reflecting the variation in features, menus, set-up processes, and firmware that is incident to the design and self-verification freedom they enjoy. We described the cooperative procedures that have developed among cable operators and consumer electronics manufactures to identify and resolve incidental technical issues that arise in making CableCARDs work well with each of these televisions. Based on experience to date, we noted that a requirement to install CableCARDs in leased set-tops would not affect such issues that arise with the many different implementations by consumer electronics manufactures in these varying, self-verified televisions.

If you have any further questions, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Daniel L. Brenner

Daniel L. Brenner

cc: Donna Gregg
Steve Broeckert
William Johnson
Mike Lance
Deborah Klein
Natalie Rosiman
John Wong
Sara Mahmood
Rick Chessen